

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) An information retrieval system that serves to retrieve information requested by a client machine from a remote server via a network, the client machine operating a network browser, said system comprising:

an intermediate server coupled to a network, said intermediate server receives requests ~~destined for a remote server~~ and performs processing on responses to the requests ~~from the remote server~~ before returning the responses to a client machine;

at least one third-party application plug-in installed on the intermediate server, the third-party application plug-in to filter the response to render at least one feature available at the client machine without counterpart plug-ins at the client machine; and

a history manager operable on the intermediate server, the history manager storing results of historical requests from the client machine and providing the results of the historical requests to the client machine in response to a view history request from the client machine,

wherein the received requests that are not view history requests or login requests to the intermediate server are assumed to be destined for a remote server and are forwarded by the intermediate server to the remote server.

Claim 2 (currently amended) An information retrieval system as recited in claim 1, wherein said third-party application plug-in operates at said intermediate server to process the responses to the requests ~~from the remote server~~ before returning the responses to the client machine.

Claim 3 (currently amended) An information retrieval system as recited in claim 1, wherein said third-party application plug-in operates at said intermediate server to pass the responses to the requests ~~from the remote server~~ through ~~[[a]]~~ an application filter provided by said third-party application plug-in before returning the responses to the client machine.

Claim 4 (currently amended) An information retrieval system as recited in claim 1, wherein said information retrieval system further comprises:

an application ~~plug-in~~ plug-in framework that facilitates incorporating at least one third-party application plug-in within the intermediate server;

a data storage device operatively connected or within said intermediate server;
and

a cookie manager operable on said intermediate server, said cookie manager operates to manage centralized storage of cookies in said data storage device with respect to the client machine and the remote server,

wherein cookies from the remote server provided with a response are stored in said data storage device by said cookie manager instead of at the client machine, and

wherein said cookie manager retrieves previously stored cookies from said data storage device that are associated with the remote server and the client machine, and provides the retrieved previously stored cookies to the remote server with the request.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended) An intermediary server system comprising:

a web server that receives requests for resources from client machines via a network;

a HTTP handler operatively connected to said web server, said HTTP handler receives the requests for resources, modifies the requests when the requests are intended for remote servers ~~to be directed to appropriate remote servers via the network~~, and forwards the modified requests for resources to the ~~appropriate~~ remote servers;

a HTML parser operatively connected to said HTTP handler, said HTML parser receives the resources supplied by the ~~appropriate~~ remote servers in response to the modified requests, and modifies the resources such that at least certain links contained therein are modified to be directed to an intermediary server system instead of the remote ~~servers~~ ~~server~~; and

a history manager to provide resources that were previously requested by the client ~~machines~~ ~~machine~~ in response to a view history request received from the client ~~machine~~ machines.

wherein the HTTP handler determines that the requests are intended for the remote servers by assuming the requests are intended for the remote servers when the requests are not view history requests or login requests to the web server.

Claim 7 (previously amended) An intermediary server system as recited in claim 6, wherein said intermediary server system further comprises:

a session manager that manages sessions between the client machines or their users and said intermediary server system;

a server information manager that manages remote server supplied identification or state information provided to said intermediary server system by remote servers; and

a data store for storage of session management data provided by said session manager and remote server supplied identification or state information provided by said server information manager.

Claim 8 (previously presented) An intermediary server system as recited in claim 7, wherein the remote server supplied identification or the state information provided by said server information manager comprises cookies.

Claim 9 (currently amended) An intermediary server system as recited in claim 6, wherein the history manager, uniquely stores each of the previously requested resources identified by one or more of a URL, a host name, a path, a timestamp, ~~and~~ or a file reference.

Claim 10 (previously presented) An intermediary server system as recited in claim 6, wherein said intermediary server system further comprises:

an application plug-in framework that facilitates incorporating at least one application plug-in within said intermediary server system so as to provide additional functionality.

Claim 11 (currently amended) An intermediary server system as recited in claim 9, wherein the history manager provides search services of the previously requested resources to the client machines ~~machine~~.

Claims 12 - 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (previously presented) An information retrieval system as recited in claim 1, wherein a third-party application plug-in of the at least one third-party application plug-in is operable to remove data from the response.

Claim 22 (currently amended) An information retrieval system as recited in claim 1, wherein the intermediate server receives requests from client machines located on a plurality of client networks.

Claim 23 (currently amended) An information retrieval system as recited in claim 1, wherein the intermediate server returns responses to client machines located on a plurality of client networks.

Claim 24 (currently amended) An information retrieval system as recited in claim [[1]] 4, wherein the application plug-in framework includes a plurality of third-party application plug-ins operable to filter the response in series.

Claim 25 (previously presented) An intermediary server system as recited in claim 6, wherein the web server receives a request from client machines located on a plurality of client networks.

Claim 26 (previously presented) An intermediary server system as recited in claim 6, wherein the modified resources are returned to client machines located on a plurality of client networks.

Claim 27 (canceled)